



## “Nurturing Community”

### Executive Director’s Message

*“Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives.”*

*—Martin Luther King Jr.*

Inch by inch, you are coming out of the pandemic’s negative effects. You have heard and read about the “new normal.” Things are not the same. You are making changes. In all areas of your life, you are finding new ways of thinking and doing things. At times, you still struggle with how to adjust within your family, work, and relationships. *And you are an adult.* Now, just imagine how hard it is for children, teenagers, and grandchildren! Patricia Hersch, author of “A Tribe Apart,” does not focus on “fringe” youth. Instead, Hersch focuses on ordinary teenagers who come from a variety of backgrounds. The distinguishing feature of today’s youth is not technology; she says, “It is aloneness.” It is alienation and a lack of connecting with adults in a meaningful way. So, if loneliness, alienation, and a longing for caring adults are the defining characteristics of this generation, *what can you do* to connect with today’s youth?

In fact, *your* donations play a key role, and help us to create an after-

school program where children and teenagers have fun, develop peer friendships, and find mentoring relationships with caring adults. When teens say that they want to be taken seriously, and to feel connected to the larger community, your donations show that you are listening and are inviting children and teens to partner with us at Restore. Every time you support Restore with your good thoughts and prayers; you have made it your business to understand “youth culture”. You know that youth culture is not something that is distinct from “adult” or “mainstream” culture. Instead, you understand that the two are interdependent and, in many ways, inseparable.



You have made Restore a safe place for young people to take a break from the stress of living under three years of COVID, the global pandemic. Because of you, our youth don’t have to be so serious all the time. They can take a break and play, act silly, and just relax. They can throw a football, kick a soccer ball, or play a board

game. They can complete homework, learn a skill, sit and talk with an adult, or start thinking and preparing for college or trade school. The safe place you have created allows children and teens to just be kids, and to enjoy themselves and their lives, regardless of their age.

The Restore youth may not know you by name, but they are aware and thankful for the goodwill you bring into their lives. They feel good knowing that you care about them and all the things they want to accomplish. The results of your goodwill can be seen in tangible ways including all the positive energy at Restore. Examples of this energy include: Nico practicing his trombone, Joshua and

Dylan playing catch with a football, and Mariah and Sebastian practicing their dance steps.

In summary, Restore is about caring adults, both seen and unseen, who make deep human connections in the lives and experiences of urban children and teenagers. Your partnership empowers our youth with encouragement, effort, and confidence, and allows each

Restore member to trust, try, and to have courage, despite the difficulties of the past three years. The entire Restore community is thankful for you and your willingness to share your goodwill and resources, which make our partnership possible.

*—Mr. Linwood Bagby*

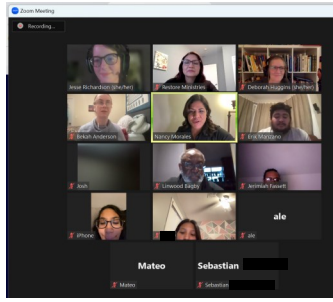




# RESTORE AT A GLANCE

**HYBRID AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM**  
**Monday In-Person**  
 3 to 6:00 pm  
**Tuesday, Thursday Virtual**  
 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Program site address:  
 The Snyder Academy  
 42 Broad Street,  
 Elizabeth, NJ 07201



**Easter Celebration**



**COLLEGE TOURS**

**Montclair State University**



**Seton Hall University**



**Union College**

Union College Financial Aid, Enrollment and Admission Departments provided a FAFSA workshop for Senior and Junior Students and Parents/Guardians at Restore's site. Thank you!



**Students United for Justice Social Justice - Guest Speaker Panelists with Incredible Days Group**



**Art Performance - Dance and Fashion Design with Institute of Music for Children**



## Assistant to the Director's Message



My name is Erik Manzano. My position at Restore, which I have held for three years, is Assistant to the Director. My experiences

as Assistant have been engaging, motivating, positive, and fun! Whether I am coordinating team-building activities or conversing with students, I am consistently satisfied knowing that I have helped students take a step in the right direction. When I was a student at Restore, I received so much benevolence from the program. Therefore, with the time I have left, my personal goal is to pass along to the current generation everything that Restore did for me.

Sadly, I will be leaving this summer to complete another internship. Restore has been my family for the past 15 years, and I have loved every minute! There is nothing I would change about my experiences at Restore.

*\_ Erik Manzano*



## Program Director's Message



*"How building relationship skills supports young people's success"*  
- Search Institute

Strong relationships in young people's lives will allow them to develop resilience to life's challenges. Children experience these relationships in their homes, schools, and community. Linwood's article describes the relationship outcomes, and I want to explain the actions that lead to these outcomes. At Restore, the caring team of adults, including staff and volunteers, work on building relationships with our young people and finding meaningful methods and skills that are accessible, responsive, and engaging.

Below, I describe the actions that, when applied, are essential to the five elements that create the De-

*velopmental Relationships Framework.* Restore's team of adults carefully discovers children's and teenagers' needs, so they can gain the ability to learn, grow and achieve their goals. The five essential elements:

1. "Express care - show me that I matter to you": Staff and adults at our programs know every member's name; to us, it is very important to build trust; we check in with them and their families often, comfort them and offer them a safe and healthy atmosphere to smile and laugh.
2. "Challenging Growth - Push me to keep getting better": We, as a team, practice healthy motivation with a positive attitude to help children and teenagers expand and discover. We promote incentive trips when students achieve an Honor Roll at school. And we try to make their birthdays special, celebrating with their peers at the program.
3. "Provide Support - Help me complete tasks and achieve goals": We help them achieve their academic goals by tutoring, having a volunteer or staff member work one-to-one with students to complete projects, preparing them for SAT tests and important presentations, and coaching them to graduate and transition to college.

4. "Share power - Treat me respectfully and give me a say": Young people at Restore get to experience leading games, team-building activities with their peers and get the fundamentals of leadership. They can do community service work. At the Summer program, the High School students get the opportunity to work as a youth counselors. Our youth are treated with respect, and they are taught to respect others' feelings.

5. "Expand possibilities: Connect me with people and places that broaden my world." Exposing our youth to new places, taking them on cultural field trips, watching a play at Paper Mill Playhouse, visiting a museum, taking them on college tours, and connecting them with successful people in-person and through our virtual panels of guest speakers who share their professional and personal experiences of serving others.

Instead of describing Restore's additional services and all the grounded relationships with young people, please enjoy the pictures that speak for themselves. I am proud to say that our team implements all five of the above elements, which build relationship skills, and ensure the success of our members. Finally, when I refer to "our team," that includes you! It is your kind, financial support that makes Restore possible.

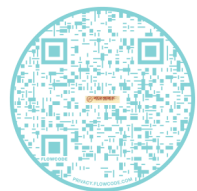
*Ms. Ximena Carrasco*

## Welcome to the Team!

*Marc Anthony Moron  
Youth Worker*



Homework Center





# RESTORE AT A GLANCE

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ “Bring a Friend” Event  
May 20th
- ◆ College Tours  
TBD
- ◆ ACE Summer Program 2023  
July 10th. To August 4th.  
Registrations are Open



Paper Mill Playhouse - Field Trips

“Bring a Friend Day” Events



Community Members Visiting Restore

CoA Coalition of Altruism, thank you for your help!



Volunteers & Community Service Group



Birthdays Celebration



## Student Intern's, Union College Message

### CONTACT US



Email: [info@restorekids.org](mailto:info@restorekids.org)  
[Restore1161@gmail.com](mailto:Restore1161@gmail.com)

Tax-deductible donations can be made by scanning the QR code and visiting our Donate page, or by mailing a check to:  
P.O. BOX 29  
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207

Donate!

<https://restorekids.org/>  
<https://m.facebook.com/restorekids>  
Instagram: @restore\_ministries\_inc



My name is Jerimiah Fassett, I am 20 years old and currently in my freshman year of college. Since high school, I've served as junior youth counselor during Restore's summer programs, which gave me first-hand experience working with kids. After graduating high school, I was also given the opportunity to work as a youth counselor during the school year. Working as a youth counselor has been an amazing experience! Guiding and giving advice to the kids, and watching them grow to their full potential has been a wondrous thing to see! Being part of the Restore Team has been another great experience. We work and communicate as a team in order to achieve our goal of creating a safe, fun environment for Restore's members. Being a Restore team member has broadened my horizons and given me unique experiences - not only as a team member, but as part of a family!

*Jerimiah Fassett*



ELIZABETHPORT PRESBYTERIAN CENTER



The Snyder Academy of Elizabethtown